

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 12 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 4-8 and 13, 17 and 19 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A pumping arrangement for pumping
a pre-established multi-phase fluid flow, said arrangement comprising:

a centrifugal pump which includes has engaqed thereto, a fluid inlet pipe connected in fluid communication with a multiphase fluid source and an outlet conduit pipe and said centrifugal pump being driveable by a power providing means,

a fluid communication providing means to provide a communication of fluid between said outlet pipe and said inlet pipe of said pump, said fluid communication being such as to provide a fluid connection between said outlet pipe and said inlet pipe to deliver fluid of a higher pressure from said outlet pipe to said inlet pipe upstream of said centrifugal pump, when said centrifugal pump is in operation,

wherein said centrifugal pump is provided with includes an impeller which has a plurality of vanes configured to define there between one of three and four impeller vane separated passageways.

2. (Previously Presented) The pumping arrangement as claimed in claim 1 wherein said arrangement is for pumping a fluid of gaseous/liquid mix.

3. (Previously Presented) The pumping arrangement as claimed in claim 1 wherein said power providing means is an electric motor.

4. (Currently Amended) The pumping arrangement as claimed in claim 1 wherein said fluid connection is a bleed line to bleed a portion of said fluid from the outlet pipe of ~~said centrifugal pump~~ to the inlet pipe.

5. (Currently Amended) The pumping arrangement as claimed in claim 1 wherein said fluid connection between said outlet pipe and inlet pipe of ~~said centrifugal pump~~ is provided with includes at least one nozzle at the inlet pipe for injection of bled fluid into the ~~delivery line of said inlet pipe of said centrifugal pump~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The pumping arrangement as claimed in claim 5 wherein said at least one nozzle provides, an increase in velocity head to said bled flow prior to the point of injection by as a result of a reduction in the reducing the flow area of the fluid connection at least one nozzle.

7. (Currently Amended) The pumping arrangement as claimed in claim 5 wherein said at least one nozzle is oriented in respect of the ~~delivery line~~ inlet pipe of the ~~inlet~~ so as to impart a ~~prerotation~~ pre-pump rotational force onto ~~a main~~ an inlet side multiphase fluid ~~delivery~~.

8. (Currently Amended) The pumping arrangement as claimed in claim 7 wherein said ~~pre-rotation~~ pre-pump-rotation is in a direction co-rotatory with an impeller rotation direction.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The pumping arrangement as claimed in claim 1 wherein the impeller is one modified from an impeller of a centrifugal pump which would operate at or about peak efficiency but where the fluid is liquid only, said modification including the removal of vanes to provide said vane separated passageways.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method of pumping pre-established multi-phase fluid flow, said method comprising:

providing a centrifugal pump which includes a has engaged thereto a fluid inlet pipe connected in fluid communication with a multiphase fluid source and an outlet pipe through which said fluid is delivered,

providing a power providing means to rotate the impeller of said centrifugal pump, and

bleeding a portion of fluid from the outlet pipe and delivering the bled fluid via a fluid connection providing means to said inlet pipe to be injected into the main multiphase fluid flow into said centrifugal pump fluid,

wherein said centrifugal pump is provided with an impeller which has a plurality of vanes configured to define there between one of three and four impeller vane separated passageways.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of pumping as claimed in claim 13 wherein said method further includes providing a flow control means in said fluid connection providing means to allow the rate of bled fluid flow to be controlled.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of pumping as claimed in claim 13 wherein said method further includes the provision of a means to measure the volumetric rate and head of pressure of delivered fluid, the measurements taken to be utilised in setting of the flow control means.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of pumping as claimed in claim 13 wherein said bleeding includes prior to the injection of said fluid, splitting of fluid into at least two separated flow paths, wherein for each flow path there is an injection nozzle provided to inject the flow into a main suction flow to said centrifugal pump.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of pumping as claimed in claim 13 wherein said injection of said bled fluid induces a rotation onto the main ~~suction~~ multiphase fluid ~~flow of fluid~~.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of pumping as claimed in claim 17 wherein said rotation is in a direction co-rotatory with a direction of rotation of the impeller.

19. (Currently Amended) A pumping arrangement in a ducted multi-phase fluid flow system, said arrangement comprising:

a centrifugal pump which ~~includes~~ has engaged thereto a fluid inlet pipe connected in fluid communication with a multiphase fluid source and an outlet pipe and driveable by a power providing means,

a fluid communication providing means to provide a communication of fluid between said outlet pipe and said inlet pipe of said pump, said fluid communication means providing a fluid

connection between said outlet pipe and said inlet pipe to deliver fluid of a higher pressure from said outlet pipe to said inlet pipe when said centrifugal pump is in operation,

wherein said centrifugal pump is provided with an impeller which has a plurality of vanes configured to define there between one of three and four impeller vane separated passageways.